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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/607,802	06/27/2003	Chiang Yeh	134108	6521
77216	7590	02/03/2010	EXAMINER	
ALCATEL-LUCENT			FRITZ, BRADFORD F	
C/O GALASSO & ASSOCIATES, LP			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
P. O. BOX 26503			2442	
AUSTIN, TX 78755-0503			MAIL DATE	
			02/03/2010	
			DELIVERY MODE	
			PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/607,802	<b>Applicant(s)</b> YEH ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b> BRADFORD F. FRITZ	<b>Art Unit</b> 2442

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 November 2009.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.      2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-11,13-21 and 23-76 is/are pending in the application.
  - 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-11,13-21 and 23-76 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 04 November 2009 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
    1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments filed 11/04/09 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
2. In the remarks, applicant argued in substance that:

(A) Hales only discloses a system administrator that has power to monitor all conferences (both the conference and the avatar conference) and that Hales does not teach the all the administration capabilities as claimed. The Applicants argue that combining the administrator with extra capabilities in Jiang with the administrator in Hales fails to render the claims obvious.

As to point (A), the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Hales teaches that an administrator can have the same administration capabilities when moderating two conferences but does not explicitly disclose the entire claimed list of possible capabilities for a conference administrator. The Examiner notes that adding extra admin capabilities/features/commands would have been obvious. Jiang discloses the rest of claimed list of possible conference administrator capabilities (i.e., creating, controlling, naming, adjourning, password). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Hales and Jiang so that the administrator in Hales, which has the same control over two conferences, be provided with the extra capabilities which are taught by Jiang (i.e., creating, controlling,

naming, adjourning, password) in order to extend the administration features/commands and giving the conference administrator more flexibility and control over the conference.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-11, 13-21, and 23-76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Summers (6,876,734) in view of Roseman (6,608,636) in view of Christofferson et al. (7,006,616), hereinafter referred to as Christofferson, in view of Hales et al. (6,288,739), hereinafter referred to as Hales, further in view of Jiang (6,167,432).

5. Regarding claim 1, Summers disclosed configuring a member using one or more commands to result in displaying a member icon on a computer screen (column 13, lines 8-30 and Fig. 8); and storing the configuration for the member into a file (column 13, lines 8-30 and Fig. 8); assigning the member as a member administrator using one or more commands (column 5, lines 33-55 and column 9, lines 20-40); and allowing the member administrator to implement a plurality of first set functions (column 5, lines 33-55 and column 9, lines 20-40),

However, Summer does not explicitly teach wherein said first set functions include at least one of a function for implementing Whisper functionality, a function for

implementing Create Table functionality, and a function for implementing Create Avatar functionality. Roseman teaches wherein said first set functions include at least one of a function for implementing Whisper functionality (column 9, lines 15-25), a function for implementing Create Table functionality (column 7, lines 30-40), and a function for implementing Create Avatar functionality (column 7, lines 30-40). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the added functionalities as taught by Roseman in the system of Summer because both Summer and Roseman are from the same field of endeavor of conferencing and in order to allow multiple persons, at different locations, to hold a conference, by providing many of the conveniences which the participants would have if present together in the same room (column 1, lines 18-24).

However, Summer and Roseman do not explicitly teach wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference, wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference, and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference. Christofferson teaches wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar

conference with all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the conference in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Christofferson in the systems of Summer and Roseman because all are from the same field of endeavor of conferencing and in order to bridge an audio conference with a separate visual chat room conference (column 16, lines 33-65).

However, the references do not explicitly teach the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference. Hales teaches the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference (column 14, lines 19-30), and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference (column 14, lines 25-55 and Fig. 9). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Hales with the others above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a higher level of control for multiple conferees and conferences, and also to allow user to simultaneously participate and manage separate conferences (column 1, lines 40-60).

However, the combination does not explicitly teach that the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference. Jiang teaches a conference system wherein the capabilities of the

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administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference (column 3, lines 19-45 and Figs. 3-5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Jiang in the combination above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a user with various functions which aid in administering the conference.

6. Regarding claim 2, Summers disclosed wherein the step of configuring comprises inputting definition and identification information (column 7, lines 5-24, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7).

7. Regarding claim 3, Summers disclosed wherein the step of storing comprises storing the member configuration in a database (column 7, lines 5-24, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7).

8. Regarding claim 4, Summers disclosed assigning the member as a member administrator using one or more commands (column 9, lines 20-40 and Fig. 5); creating a conference room by the member administrator using one or more commands (column 9, lines 20-40 and Fig. 5); connecting to a server by the member administrator to allow other members to join the conference room using one or more commands (column 7, lines 5-24, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7); and selecting certain of the other members by the member administrator to be conference participants in the conference room with the member administrator by using one or more commands (column 9, lines 20-40 and Fig. 5); and commencing communication in the conference room by the member administrator so that the selected certain other members and member

administrator are conference participants using one or more commands (column 9, lines 20-40 and Fig. 5).

9. Regarding claims 5 and 30, Summers disclosed wherein the commands are graphical user interface (GUI) commands (column 9, lines 20-40 and Fig. 5).

10. Regarding claims 6, 7, 8, and 9 Summers disclosed wherein the step of creating includes the member administrator selecting a first set secondary function (Room Commence) (column 9, lines 20-40 and Fig. 5), which is among other first set secondary functions (Room Adjourn, Room Transcribe) (column 13, lines 35-50, and Fig. 8).

11. Regarding claims 10, 15, 31, 36, and 74 Summers disclosed wherein the step of connecting allows the member administrator to use a first set dialing function and first set tertiary functions (Phone, Location, IP Address) to access first set tertiary function first elements public branch exchange (PBX) or voice internet protocol (VoIP) gateway (column 5, lines 9-32, column 6, lines 13-30 and Fig. 1, column 9, lines 20-40 and Fig. 5, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7).

12. Regarding claims 11 and 32, Summers disclosed wherein the step of commencing communication consists of the member administrator selecting a first set secondary function (Room Commence) to allow communication between the selected certain other members and member administrator in the conference room (column 9, lines 20-40 and Fig. 5).

13. Regarding claims 13 and 34, Summers disclosed wherein the member administrator may select one of the first set functions (Mute) to mute the member

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administrator (column 8, lines 1-10, column 13, lines 35-50, and Fig. 8), whereas the selected certain other members as conference participants will not be able to hear the member administrator but the member administrator will be able to hear the selected certain other members as conference participants (column 8, lines 1-10, column 13, lines 35-50, and Fig. 8).

14. Regarding claims 14 and 35, Summers disclosed wherein the member administrator may select one of the first set functions (Whisper) to whisper to a particular selected certain other member (column 8, lines 1-10, column 13, lines 35-50, and Fig. 8), whereas the member administrator and the particular selected certain other member will be able to communicate with each other without other non-particular selected certain other members as conference participants hearing them (column 8, lines 1-10, column 13, lines 35-50, and Fig. 8).

15. Regarding claims 16 and 37, Summers disclosed wherein the member administrator may select one of the first set functions (Create Table) in order to create a table and select itself and a particular selected certain other member as conference participant to invite the particular selected certain other member as conference participant to a table session discussion (column 5, lines 9-32, column 6, lines 13-30 and Fig. 1).

16. Regarding claims 17 and 38, Summers disclosed wherein the particular selected certain other member may accept, deny, or block the invitation from the member administrator to a table session discussion (column 8, lines 1-10, column 13, lines 35-50, and Fig. 8).

17. Regarding claims 18 and 39, Summers disclosed wherein when the particular selected certain other member accepts the table invitation (column 8, lines 1-10, column 13, lines 35-50, and Fig. 8), the administrator and the particular selected certain other member may communicate between themselves in the separate table discussion and no other non-particular selected certain other member as conference participant in the conference can hear the member administrator and the particular selected certain other member and the particular selected certain other member and member administrator cannot hear the conference (column 8, lines 1-10, column 13, lines 35-50, and Fig. 8).

18. Regarding claims 19 and 40, Summers disclosed wherein when the particular selected certain other member accepts the table invitation (column 8, lines 1-10, column 13, lines 35-50, and Fig. 8), the member administrator and the particular selected certain other member can communicate between themselves in the separate table discussion and no other non-particular selected certain other member as conference participant in the conference can hear the member administrator and the particular selected certain other member but the particular selected certain other member and member administrator can hear and communicate with the conference (column 8, lines 1-10, column 13, lines 35-50, and Fig. 8).

19. Regarding claim 20, Summers disclosed wherein when the particular selected certain other member denies when invited to the table session, the member administrator is notified of such denial and the particular selected certain other member is not entered in the table session discussion (column 8, lines 1-10, column 13, lines 35-50, and Fig. 8).

20. Regarding claim 21, Summers disclosed wherein when the particular selected certain other member blocks the table invitation (column 8, lines 1-10, column 13, lines 35-50, and Fig. 8), the member administrator is notified of such block and is blocked, until unblocked by the particular selected certain other member, from sending table invites to the particular selected certain other member and the particular selected certain other member is not entered in the table session discussion (column 8, lines 1-10, column 13, lines 35-50, and Fig. 8).

21. Regarding claims 23, 27, 44, and 48, Summers disclosed wherein the bridge function consists of a one way bridge, a two way bridge and an amway bridge (column 5, lines 9-32 and Figs. 1-3).

22. Regarding claims 24-26 and 45-47, Summers disclosed wherein the one way bridge allows the member administrator and selected certain other members as conference participants in the avatar conference to hear the selected certain other members as conference participants of the conference (column 8, lines 1-10, column 13, lines 35-50, and Fig. 8).

23. Regarding claim 28, Jiang disclosed wherein the member administrator may select one of the first functions (Quit) to adjourn the conference after the selected certain other members as conference participants have vacated the conference room (column 3, lines 19-45, and Figs. 3-5).

24. Regarding claim 29, Summers disclosed connecting to a server by the member to join a conference room using one or more commands (column 7, lines 5-24, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7); waiting for a member administrator to select the member

and commence communication in the conference room so that the selected member is a conference participant by using one or more commands (column 7, lines 5-24, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7); and engaging in conversation in the conference room which is comprised of the selected member and member administrator as conference participants using one or more commands (column 7, lines 5-24, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7).

25. Regarding claim 33, Summers disclosed wherein the member administrator has a plurality of first set functions (Admin, Mute, Whisper, Dial, Create Table, Create Avatar, Quit) available (column 9, lines 20-40 and Fig. 5, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7).

26. Regarding claim 41, Summers disclosed wherein when the another selected member or member administrator denies when invited to the table session (column 5, lines 9-32, column 6, lines 13-30 and Fig. 1), the selected member is notified of such denial and the another selected member or member administrator is not entered in the table session discussion (column 13, lines 35-50, and Fig. 8).

27. Regarding claim 42, Summers disclosed wherein when the another selected member or member administrator blocks when invited to the table session, the selected member is notified of such block and is blocked (column 8, lines 1-10, column 13, lines 35-50, and Fig. 8), until unblocked by the another selected member or member administrator, from sending table invites to the another selected member or member administrator and the another selected member or member administrator is not entered in the table session discussion (column 5, lines 9-32, column 6, lines 13-30 and Fig. 1).

28. Regarding claim 43, Summers disclosed wherein the member administrator may select one of the first functions (Create Avatar) to create an avatar conference where an incarnation of the member administrator will reside as the administrator in the avatar conference (column 13, lines 8-30 and Fig. 8), with all the capabilities the member administrator has in the conference, with the addition of a bridge function which may bridge the avatar conference with the conference (column 7, lines 5-24, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7).

29. Regarding claim 49, Jiang disclosed wherein the selected member may quit at any time, such that afterwards, the selected member will not be a conference participant and not able to communicate with other selected members as conference participants (column 3, lines 19-45, and Figs. 3-5).

30. Regarding claims 50, Summers disclosed a client network (Fig. 1 and column 9, lines 4-19); and a service provider network (Fig. 1 and column 9, lines 4-19), wherein the client network transmits to the service provider network connection information and a function request (column 9, lines 4-19), further characterized in that the service provider network operates on the connection information and function request to perform a specific operation (column 7, lines 5-24).

However, Summers does not explicitly teach wherein the specific operation includes allowing Whisper functionality, Create Table functionality, and Create Avatar functionality to be performed. Roseman teaches wherein the specific operation includes allowing Whisper functionality (column 9, lines 15-25), Create Table functionality (column 7, lines 30-40), and Create Avatar functionality to be performed (column 7,

lines 30-40). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the added functionalities as taught by Roseman in the system of Summer because both Summer and Roseman are from the same field of endeavor of conferencing and in order to allow multiple persons, at different locations, to hold a conference, by providing many of the conveniences which the participants would have if present together in the same room (column 1, lines 18-24).

However, Summer and Roseman do not explicitly teach wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference, wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference, and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar conference in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference. Christofferson teaches wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar conference in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Christofferson in the systems of Summer and Roseman because all are from the same

field of endeavor of conferencing and in order to bridge an audio conference with a separate visual chat room conference (column 16, lines 33-65).

However, the references do not explicitly teach the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference. Hales teaches the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference (column 14, lines 19-30), and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference (column 14, lines 25-55 and Fig. 9). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Hales with the others above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a higher level of control for multiple conferees and conferences, and also to allow user to simultaneously participate and manage separate conferences (column 1, lines 40-60).

However, the combination does not explicitly teach that the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference. Jiang teaches a conference system wherein the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference (column 3, lines 19-45 and Figs. 3-5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Jiang in the combination above because all are from the same field of

endeavor and in order to provide a user with various functions which aid in administering the conference.

31. Regarding claims 51 and 57, Summers disclosed wherein the connection information and function request is transmitted between the client network and the service provider network over a wide area network (column 5, lines 9-32 and Fig. 1).
32. Regarding claims 52, 58, and 68, Summers disclosed wherein the wide area network is a public internet (column 5, lines 9-32 and Fig. 1).
33. Regarding claim 53, Summers disclosed wherein the connection information and function request is transmitted over a computer telephone integration (CTI) link and public branch exchange (PBX) (column 5, lines 9-32 and Fig. 1).
34. Regarding claims 54 and 61, Summers disclosed wherein the connection information and function request is transmitted over at least part of the client provider network on a serial link (column 5, lines 9-32 and Fig. 1).
35. Regarding claim 55 and 62, Summers disclosed wherein the connection information and function request is transmitted over at least part of the service provider network on a serial link (column 5, lines 9-32 and Fig. 1).
36. Regarding claims 56, Summers disclosed a client network (Fig. 1 and column 9, lines 4-19); and a service provider network (Fig. 1 and column 9, lines 4-19), wherein the client network transmits to the service provider network connection information and a function request (column 9, lines 4-19), further characterized in that the service provider network operates on the connection information and function request to perform a specific operation (column 7, lines 5-24).

However, Summers does not explicitly teach wherein the specific operation includes allowing a Table conference session, and Avatar session to be implemented. Roseman teaches wherein the specific operation includes allowing a Table conference session (column 7, lines 30-40), and Avatar session to be implemented (column 7, lines 30-40). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the added functionalities as taught by Roseman in the system of Summer because both Summer and Roseman are from the same field of endeavor of conferencing and in order to allow multiple persons, at different locations, to hold a conference, by providing many of the conveniences which the participants would have if present together in the same room (column 1, lines 18-24).

However, Summer and Roseman do not explicitly teach wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference, wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference, and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar conference in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference. Christofferson teaches wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar conference in addition of a

bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Christofferson in the systems of Summer and Roseman because all are from the same field of endeavor of conferencing and in order to bridge an audio conference with a separate visual chat room conference (column 16, lines 33-65).

However, the references do not explicitly teach the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference. Hales teaches the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference (column 14, lines 19-30), and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference (column 14, lines 25-55 and Fig. 9). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Hales with the others above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a higher level of control for multiple conferees and conferences, and also to allow user to simultaneously participate and manage separate conferences (column 1, lines 40-60).

However, the combination does not explicitly teach that the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference. Jiang teaches a conference system wherein the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password

for the conference (column 3, lines 19-45 and Figs. 3-5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Jiang in the combination above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a user with various functions which aid in administering the conference.

37. Regarding claims 59 and 75, Summers disclosed wherein the connection information is transmitted over a network layer and central server (column 5, lines 9-32 and Fig. 1).

38. Regarding claim 60, Summers disclosed wherein the function request is transmitted over a computer telephone integration (CTI) link and voice internet protocol (VoIP) Gateway (column 5, lines 9-32 and Fig. 1).

39. Regarding claim 63, Summers disclosed a controller for generating connection information and function request (column 7, lines 5-24, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7); an interface for receiving and operating on the connection information and function request (column 7, lines 5-24, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7); an application programming interface (API) for controlling hardware; and a computer telephony integration (CTI) unit for hosting software that communicates with the hardware (column 5, lines 8-30); and a service provider network comprising: a conference server for receiving and executing the connection information and function request for allowing Whisper functionality, Create Table functionality, and Create Avatar functionality to be performed; and a wide area network coupling the client network to the service provider

network for allowing communication between the client network and the service provider network (column 5, lines 9-32 and Fig. 1).

However Summers does not explicitly teach a conference server for receiving and executing the connection information and function request for allowing Whisper functionality (column 9, lines 15-25), Create Table functionality (column 7, lines 30-40), and Create Avatar functionality to be performed (column 7, lines 30-40). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the added functionalities as taught by Roseman in the system of Summer because both Summer and Roseman are from the same field of endeavor of conferencing and in order to allow multiple persons, at different locations, to hold a conference, by providing many of the conveniences which the participants would have if present together in the same room (column 1, lines 18-24).

However, Summer and Roseman do not explicitly teach wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference, wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference, and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar conference in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference. Christofferson teaches wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference (column 16, lines

33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar conference in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Christofferson in the systems of Summer and Roseman because all are from the same field of endeavor of conferencing and in order to bridge an audio conference with a separate visual chat room conference (column 16, lines 33-65).

However, the references do not explicitly teach the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference. Hales teaches the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference (column 14, lines 19-30), and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference (column 14, lines 25-55 and Fig. 9). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Hales with the others above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a higher level of control for multiple conferees and conferences, and also to allow user to simultaneously participate and manage separate conferences (column 1, lines 40-60).

However, the combination does not explicitly teach that the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password

for the conference. Jiang teaches a conference system wherein the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference (column 3, lines 19-45 and Figs. 3-5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Jiang in the combination above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a user with various functions which aid in administering the conference.

40. Regarding claims 64-66, Summers disclosed a client network comprising: a controller for generating connection information and function request (column 7, lines 5-24, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7); an interface for receiving and operating on the connection information and function request (column 7, lines 5-24, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7); an application programming interface (API) for controlling hardware; and a computer telephony integration (CTI) unit for hosting software that communicates with the hardware; and a service provider network comprising: a conference server for receiving and executing the connection information and function request (column 7, lines 5-24, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7); and a wide area network coupling the client network to the service provider network for allowing communication between the client network and the service provider network (column 5, lines 9-32 and Fig. 1).

41. Regarding claim 67, Summers disclosed wherein the conference
42. Regarding claim 69, Summers disclosed a protocol converter coupled to the call management unit for converting between a first transmission format and a second transmission format (column 1, lines 53-60).

43. Regarding claims 70 and 76, Summers disclosed a public branch exchange and voice internet protocol (VoIP) gateway coupled to the client network and service provider network for transmitting signals between the client network and service provider network (column 5, lines 9-32, column 6, lines 13-30 and Fig. 1).

44. Regarding claim 71, Summers disclosed generating at the client network connection information and a function request to control a conference (column 7, lines 5-24, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7); transmitting to the service provider network the connection information and function request (column 7, lines 5-24, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7); authorizing at the service provider network the client network connection information (column 7, lines 5-24, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7); signaling the authorization information back to the client network (column 7, lines 5-24, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7); and allowing at least one of a Table conference session and an Avatar conference session to be created via the client network in response to successfully authorizing the client network connection information (column 7, lines 5-24, column 11, lines 37-65 and Fig. 7).

However, Summers does not explicitly teach allowing at least one of a Table conference session and an Avatar conference session to be created via the client network. Roseman teaches allowing at least one of a Table conference session and an Avatar conference session to be created via the client network (column 7, lines 30-40). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the added functionalities as taught by Roseman in the system of Summer because both Summer and Roseman are from the same field of endeavor of

conferencing and in order to allow multiple persons, at different locations, to hold a conference, by providing many of the conveniences which the participants would have if present together in the same room (column 1, lines 18-24).

However, Summer and Roseman do not explicitly teach wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference, wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference, and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar conference in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference. Christofferson teaches wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar conference in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Christofferson in the systems of Summer and Roseman because all are from the same field of endeavor of conferencing and in order to bridge an audio conference with a separate visual chat room conference (column 16, lines 33-65).

However, the references do not explicitly teach the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference. Hales teaches the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference (column 14, lines 19-30), and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference (column 14, lines 25-55 and Fig. 9). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Hales with the others above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a higher level of control for multiple conferees and conferences, and also to allow user to simultaneously participate and manage separate conferences (column 1, lines 40-60).

However, the combination does not explicitly teach that the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference. Jiang teaches a conference system wherein the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference (column 3, lines 19-45 and Figs. 3-5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Jiang in the combination above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a user with various functions which aid in administering the conference.

45. Regarding claim 72, Summers disclosed barring the function request at the service provider network (column 5, lines 9-32, column 6, lines 13-30 and Fig. 1).
46. Regarding claim 73, Summers disclosed implementing the function request at the service provider network (column 5, lines 9-32, column 6, lines 13-30 and Fig. 1).

***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRADFORD F. FRITZ whose telephone number is (571)272-3860. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 - 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell can be reached on 571-272-3868. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/B. F. F./  
Examiner, Art Unit 2442

/Joon H. Hwang/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2447